

Message Text

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TAGS: CCMS, NATO, SENV

SUBJECT: CCMS: PROPOSED CCMS SEISMOLOGY STUDY

REF: USNATO 1567

1. REQUEST MISSION PASS TO CCMS/IS FOLLOWING MATERIAL,
PREPARED BY US EXPERT PARTICIPANT IN FEBRUARY 13-14
MEETING, ROBERT L. WESSON.

2. THE CCMS PILOT STUDY PROPOSAL DIFFERS FROM OTHER
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN ITS ORIENTATION TOWARD
ACTION, RATHER THAN TOWARD INFORMATION EXCHANGE. THE
ACTION REQUIRED OF PILOT STUDY PARTICIPANTS, ESPECIALLY
THE PARTICIPATION IN EXPERIMENTS, SIGNIFICANTLY DIS-
TINGUISHES THE PROPOSAL FROM MOST MULTINATIONAL ACTIVITIES
IN THIS FIELD, THE MAJORITY OF WHICH CONSIST ONLY OF
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PAGE 02 STATE 047406

MEETINGS. THE SUBJECT OF SEISMIC RISK, IN GENERAL, HAS
BEEN REPEATEDLY DISCUSSED IN A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL
FORA, BUT THE THREE SEISMIC RISK OBJECTIVES IN THE
PROPOSAL RESULT FROM PROBLEMS CURRENTLY FACING DECISION
MAKERS IN THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF CRITICAL FACILITIES,
SUCH AS NUCLEAR REACTORS AND LARGE DAMS. THE PROBLEM
OF ASSESSING SEISMIC RISK IN AREAS OF LOW TO MODERATE

SEISMICITY, ESPECIALLY FOR THE SITING OF CRITICAL FACILITIES, IS A PROBLEM FACED BY ALL NATO COUNTRIES. THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT CAN RESULT FROM THE PURSUIT OF THESE OBJECTIVES WILL FILL A NEED NOT CURRENTLY ADDRESSED BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMS.

3. PROGRAMS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS (IUGG), INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SEISMOLOGY AND PHYSICS OF THE EARTH'S INTERIOR (IASPEI) AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND ENGINEERING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE EARTHQUAKE AREA, ARE AIMED PRIMARILY AT INFORMATION EXCHANGE. THE GEODYNAMICS PROJECT SPONSORED BY SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES HAS SOME ACTION ASPECTS, BUT ARE NOT FOCUSED IN EITHER SEISMIC RISK OR EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION.

4. UNESCO SPONSORED AN ACTION PROGRAM IN EVALUATING EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS AND SEISMIC ZONATION OF THE BALKAN COUNTRIES THAT WAS COMPLETED A FEW YEARS AGO, AND IS CURRENTLY BEGINNING A SIMILAR STUDY IN SOUTHERN ASIA. UNESCO HAS SPONSORED SOME STUDIES OF RESERVOIR-INDUCED SEISMICITY, BUT HAS NOT PLANNED AN EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM AS OUTLINED IN THE SUGGESTED METHODOLOGIES OF THE CCMS PROPOSAL. THE FEBRUARY 1976 UNESCO INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON EARTHQUAKE RISK ADDRESSED THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 047406

PROBLEMS OF SEISMIC RISK AND EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION IN GENERAL TERMS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY. AS ONE RESULT, UNESCO IS PLANNING A CONFERENCE ON BOTH THE NATURAL SCIENCE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION, BUT HAS NOT UNDERTAKEN ANY ACTION PROGRAMS IN THIS FIELD.

5. WITHIN THE AREA OF EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION THERE IS CONSIDERABLE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION (E.G. INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE SOCIETIES AND THE PLANNED UNESCO CONFERENCE ON EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION IN 1979) AND SOME BILATERAL ACTION PROGRAMS (E.G. US-USSR), THE PROPOSED MULTI-NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION EXPERIMENT WITHIN CCMS IS UNIQUE.

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